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EXAMINER

IMAS, VLADIMIR

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 12-18, 20 – 22 and 24 - 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Derenthal (US 6,817,896).

Regarding claim 12, Derenthal, fig. 1-4, discloses a monopole coaxial cable 40, comprising: a core 42; a dielectric 44 enclosing the core; an electrically conductive shield 46, 48 enclosing the dielectric, the shield including a metal braid 48 and an electrically conductive foil 46; a jacket 52 enclosing the shield; and a plug connector including a contact sleeve 36, a segment 28 of the sleeve electrically conductively contacting the shield and including a circumferential cutting edge; wherein the sleeve is

arranged so that the segment encloses the dielectric and is enclosed by the shield [Figure 3], an inner surface of the segment slid onto an outer surface of the dielectric to widen the jacket in a region of the segment, the cutting edge arranged between the dielectric and the foil; and wherein the sleeve is mechanically connected to the jacket by an extrusion coat 18 of an insulating material [column 3, line 22], the extrusion coat arranged as a strain relief between the segment and the shield.

Regarding claim 13, Derenthal discloses the extrusion coat adheres to the sleeve and to the jacket.

Regarding claim 14, Derenthal discloses the sleeve is a unitary piece.

Regarding claim 15, Derenthal discloses an area of an outer surface of the segment is roughened (having an annular lip).

Regarding claim 16, Derenthal discloses an outer contour of the extrusion coat includes, in locations offset in an axially parallel direction, different distances with respect to the core to form-lockingly transmit forces having an axially parallel directional component onto a housing of a secondary lock mechanism.

Regarding claim 17, Derenthal discloses a method for manufacturing a monopole coaxial cable 40 including a dielectric 44, a shield 46, 48 that includes a metal braid 48 and an electrically conductive foil 46, and a jacket 52 surrounding the shield, and including a plug connector arranged at one end of the coaxial cable, comprising: inserting a contact sleeve 36, including a segment 28 having a circumferential cutting edge, in an axially parallel direction between the foil and the dielectric, an inner surface of the segment sliding on an outer surface of the dielectric to widen the jacket in a

region of the segment, an outside of the segment in a region of the cutting edge sliding along the foil, the segment enclosing the dielectric and enclosed by the shield, the segment electrically contacting the shield; and extrusion 18 coating the jacket and a portion of the sleeve with an insulating material to fix the sleeve relative to the shield as a strain relief.

Regarding claim 18, Derenthal discloses step comprising cutting the shield and the jacket to length before the inserting step so that the dielectric protrudes with respect to the shield and the jacket.

Regarding claim 20, Derenthal discloses the metal braid of the shield encloses the foil.

Regarding claim 21, Derenthal discloses the cutting edge is arranged between the dielectric on an inside of the cutting edge and the metal braid and foil on an outside of the cutting edge.

Regarding claim 22, Derenthal discloses the segment is enclosed by the metal braid and the foil of the shield.

Regarding claim 24, Derenthal discloses the metal braid of the shield encloses the foil.

Regarding claim 25, Derenthal discloses after the inserting step, the cutting edge is arranged between the dielectric on an inside of the cutting edge and the metal braid and foil on an outside of the cutting edge.

Regarding claim 26, Derenthal discloses the segment is enclosed by the metal braid and the foil of the shield.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 19, 23 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Derenthal in view of McMills et al. (5,127,853).

Regarding claims 19, 23 and 27, Derenthal discloses all the limitations except the extrusion coating is performed with an injection molding process. McMills et al., column 13, lines 28 – 40, discloses the extrusion coating is performed with an injection molding process. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide Derenthal's connector with McMills's et al. extrusion coating is performed with an injection molding process to provide the coaxial cables may be robust and of high quality.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed on May 8, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Applicant argues "Derenthal does not constitute prior art against the present application under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). In this regard, Derenthal issued on November 16, 2004, which is after the September 3, 2004 international filing date of the present application." The Examiner agrees that there was a typographical

error in the previous office action, however, the reference patent of Derenthal (US 6,817,896) still is a valid reference under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). The Applicant argues "Derenthal does not disclose, or even suggest, the feature that a segment of a sleeve is electrically conductively contacting a shield." The Examiner respectfully disagrees. It is clear from fig. 3 that segment 28 of a sleeve 36 contacting a shield and this contact will be conductive in case the segment is made from conductive material (to provide electrical connection with inner foil 46). The Applicant also argues "Derenthal does not disclose, or even suggest, the feature that an inner surface of a segment is slid onto an outer surface of a dielectric to widen a jacket in a region of the segment." The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The attached fig. 3 shows that element 52a of jacket is present in area of post and moreover the outer foil

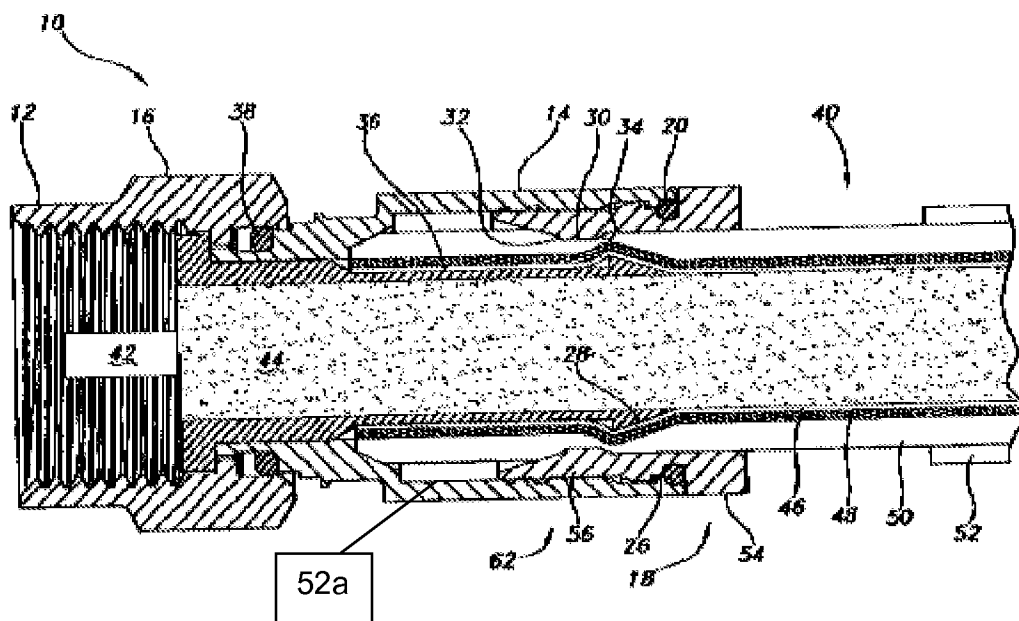


FIG. 3

50 could be considered as part of jacket.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VLADIMIR IMAS whose telephone number is (571)272-8288. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T. Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Art Unit: 2839

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/V. I./

Examiner, Art Unit 2839

6/25/2008.

/T C Patel/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2839